Sl. No.	Name of State/UT	No. of Deemed to be Universities
6	Haryana	3
7	Himachal Pradesh	1
8	Jammu & Kashmir	1
9	Jharkhand	3
10	Karnataka	7
11	Kerala	1
12	Madhya Pradesh	3
13	Maharashtra	19
14	Orissa	2
15	Punjab	3
16	Rajasthan	7
17	Tamil Nadu	16
18	Uttaranchal	2
19	Uttar Pradesh	8
20	West Bengal	2
21	Delhi	10

Maintenance of social infrastructures by HEC and MECON

*369. SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Heavy Engineering Corporation (HEC) and MECON Ltd., Ranchi, have also been running hospitals, schools and other social infrastructure for their employees and general public within or adjacent to their operational campuses in Jharkhand;

(b) if so, the details thereof, including the size/category of manpower involved in management and running, average number of beneficiaries of their services and the annual financial support each of the above needed during the last three years, year-wise;

(c) whether any steps are being taken to get rid of these infrastructures by entrusting and/or leasing out them to private entrepreneurs;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) and (b) It is fact that HEC is presently running one 350 bed hospital, 3 Dispensaries and 2 schools. MECON is also running one 62 bed hospital and participating in management of one school. Details may kindly be seen in the annexed Statement (*See* below).

(c) The management of HEC has taken steps to handover the management of hospital and schools to private professional bodies which will be selected in an objective and transparent manner with adequate safeguards for the interest of employees. MECON is also exploring the possibility of outsourcing the running of its hospital.

(d) and (e) The management of HEC with due permission of Hon'ble High Court of Jharkhand at Ranchi which is presently hearing the case under Company Petition No. 5 of 2004 and Writ Petition (civil) No. 4513 of 2005 against winding up order of BIFR, under took the exercise of leasing out the facilities of the hospital and schools. Tenders were invited on 6.3.2005 for the same, against which 6 bids were received for the hospital and 7 for the two schools. Price bids of qualified participants were opened on 25.4.2005. The price quoted by the highest bidder (H-1) for the hospital fell short of the valuation done for the hospital. Therefore the Board of Directors of the Company decided to reject the offer and directed the management for re-tendering. In both cases persmission of High Court would be taken before handing over the management, as per directions of the Court. The bids received regarding schools were also not accepted by the Board on the issue of valuation and management has been directed for re-valuation and re-tendering. In MECON no private entrepreneur has been short listed so far for the proposed out-sourcing of the hospital. The above exercise is being carried out to optimize the over

head expenses on non-core activities and to generate resources for the company. The objective is also to ensure the continuance of good quality services to the employees and other beneficiaries with the participation of private professional bodies particularly since the companies are not able to generate adequate resources for non-core activities.

Statement

Details of social infrastructure maintained by HEC and MECON

(A) Details of Medical division of Heavy Engineering Corporation Limited (HEC).

The average number of beneficiaries of the hospital services is around 30,000. The details of staff and year-wise expenditure for last 3 years are as follows:—

Year	Doctors	Executives	Supervisors	Others	Total	No. of HEC employees**	Annual Expenditure (Rs. lakh)
2002-03	27	16	33	77	153	3953	267.80
2003-04	26	18	33	69	146	3737	287.92
2004-05	26	33	18	64	141	3610	323.61

** In addition to the employees, the beneficiaries include members of their families, ex-employees & their spouse, staff & officials of CISF engaged at HEC and members of their families.

(B) Details of two Schools run by Heavy Engineering Corporation Limited (HEC).

Year	No. of Teaching Staff	No. of non-teaching Staff	Total	No. of Students (Beneficiaries)	Annual Expenditure (Rs. Lakh)
2002-03	43	08	51	2159	121.09
2003-04	35	08	43	1839	81.04
2004-05	35	07	42	1235	82.00

MECON

(C) Details in respect of the hospital run by the MECON:

The hospital has 12 Doctors, 18 Nurses and 47 supporting staff. The average number of beneficiaries is around 11,000. The year-wise expenditure on Ispat Hospital is as follows:—

Rs. in lakhs

Year	Amount
2002-03	329.37
2003-04	410.85*
2004-05	323.31

*Includes expenditure on VRS & Gratuity to separated employees.

(D) MECON has not provided any financial assistance to the school since 2001.

Compulsory education for children

†*370. DR. FAGUNI RAM: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is mandatory to provide compulsory education to the children in the age group of 6 to 14 years; and

(b) the provisions made by Government to provide compulsory education to the children who are staying away from their parents/ guardians alongwith the number of such children in the country?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) and (b) Provision of Free and Compulsory Education to children of 6—14 years is a Constitutional mandate. Under the Centrally sponsored scheme of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan, Central Government gives assistance to States, *inter alia*, for provision of free textbooks to all girls and SC/ST boys. Under this scheme, Education Guarantee Scheme and Alternative and Innovative Education Centres are also run for children in remote areas and those who cannot attend

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.